

Adjectives and adverbs (1) (quick/quickly)

A

Look at these examples:

- Our holiday was too short – the time went very **quickly**.
- The driver of the car was **seriously** injured in the accident.

Quickly and seriously are *adverbs*. Many adverbs are made from an adjective + -ly:

adjective: quick serious careful quiet heavy bad
adverb: quickly seriously carefully quietly heavily badly

For spelling, see Appendix 6.

Not all words ending in -ly are adverbs. Some *adjectives* end in -ly too, for example:

friendly lively elderly lonely silly lovely

B

Adjective or adverb?

Adjectives (quick/careful etc.) tell us about a *noun*. We use adjectives before nouns and after some verbs, especially *be*:

- Tom is a **careful** driver. (*not* 'a carefully driver')
- We didn't go out because of the **heavy** rain.
- Please **be** quiet.
- I was disappointed that my exam results were so **bad**.

We also use adjectives after the verbs *look/feel/sound* etc. (see Unit 98D):

- Why do you always look so **serious**?

Compare:

- She speaks **perfect** English.
adjective + noun

Compare these sentences with *look*:

- Tom **looked** sad when I saw him. (= he seemed sad, his expression was sad)

Adverbs (quickly/carefully etc.) tell us about a *verb*. An adverb tells us how somebody does something or how something happens:

- Tom **drove** carefully along the narrow road. (*not* 'drove careful')
- We didn't go out because it was **raining** heavily. (*not* 'raining heavy')
- Please **speak** quietly. (*not* 'speak quiet')
- I was disappointed that I **did** so badly in the exam. (*not* 'did so bad')

- Why do you never **take** me seriously?

- She **speaks** English **perfectly**.
verb + object + adverb

- Tom **looked** at me **sadly**. (= he looked at me in a sad way)

C

We also use adverbs before *adjectives* and *other adverbs*. For example:

reasonably cheap (*adverb + adjective*)
terribly sorry (*adverb + adjective*)
incredibly quickly (*adverb + adverb*)

- It's a **reasonably** cheap restaurant and the food is **extremely** good.
- Oh, I'm **terribly** sorry. I didn't mean to push you. (*not* 'terrible sorry')
- Maria learns languages **incredibly** quickly.
- The examination was **surprisingly** easy.

You can also use an adverb before a *past participle* (injured/organised/written etc.):

- Two people were **seriously** injured in the accident. (*not* 'serious injured')
- The meeting was very **badly** organised.

EXERCISES

99.1 Complete the sentences with adverbs. The first letter(s) of each adverb are given.

- 1 We didn't go out because it was raining **heavily**...
- 2 Our team lost the game because we played very **ba**.....
- 3 I had little difficulty finding a place to live. I found a flat quite **ea**.....
- 4 We had to wait for a long time but we didn't complain. We waited **pa**.....
- 5 Nobody knew George was coming to see us. He arrived **unex**.....
- 6 Mike keeps fit by playing tennis **reg**.....

99.2 Put in the right word.

- 1 The driver of the car was **seriously** injured. (serious/seriously)
- 2 The driver of the car had **serious** injuries. (serious/seriously)
- 3 I think you behaved very (selfish/selfishly)
- 4 Rose is upset about losing her job. (terrible/terribly)
- 5 There was a change in the weather. (sudden/suddenly)
- 6 Everybody at the party was dressed. (colourful/colourfully)
- 7 Linda likes wearing clothes. (colourful/colourfully)
- 8 She fell and hurt herself quite (bad/badly)
- 9 He says he didn't do well at school because he was taught. (bad/badly)
- 10 Don't go up that ladder. It doesn't look (safe/safely)
- 11 He looked at me when I interrupted him. (angry/angrily)

99.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the list. Sometimes you need the adjective (careful etc.) and sometimes the adverb (carefully etc.).

careful(ly)	complete(ly)	continuous(ly)	financial(ly)	fluent(ly)
happy/happily	nervous(ly)	perfect(ly)	quick(ly)	special(ly)

- 1 Our holiday was too short. The time passed very **quickly**....
- 2 Tom doesn't take risks when he's driving. He's always
- 3 Sue works She never seems to stop.
- 4 Alice and Stan are very married.
- 5 Monica's English is very although she makes quite a lot of mistakes.
- 6 I cooked this meal for you, so I hope you like it.
- 7 Everything was very quiet. There was silence.
- 8 I tried on the shoes and they fitted me
- 9 Do you usually feel before examinations?
- 10 I'd like to buy a car but it's impossible for me at the moment.

99.4 Choose two words (one from each box) to complete each sentence.

absolutely	reasonably	unusually	cheap	enormous	planned
badly	seriously	unnecessarily	changed	ill	quiet
completely	slightly		damaged	long	

- 1 I thought the restaurant would be expensive but it was **reasonably cheap**....
- 2 George's mother is in hospital.
- 3 What a big house! It's
- 4 It wasn't a serious accident. The car was only
- 5 The children are normally very lively but they're today.
- 6 When I returned home after 20 years, everything had
- 7 The film was It could have been much shorter.
- 8 A lot went wrong during our holiday because it was

Adjectives and adverbs (2) (**well/fast/late, hard/hardly**)

A

Good/well

Good is an *adjective*. The *adverb* is well:

- Your English is **good**. *but* You speak English **well**.
- Susan is a **good** pianist. *but* Susan **plays** the piano **well**.

We use **well** (not 'good') with *past participles* (dressed/known etc.):

well-dressed **well-known** **well-educated** **well-paid**

But **well** is also an *adjective* with the meaning 'in good health':

- 'How are you today?' 'I'm very **well**, thanks.' (not 'I'm very good')

B

Fast/hard/late

These words are both adjectives and adverbs:

- | <i>adjective</i> | <i>adverb</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| ● Jack is a very fast runner. | Jack can run very fast . |
| ● Ann is a hard worker. | Ann works hard . (not 'works hardly') |
| ● The train was late . | I got up late this morning. |

Lately = 'recently'

- Have you seen Tom **lately**?

C

Hardly

Hardly = very little, almost not. Study these examples:

- Sarah was rather unfriendly to me at the party. She **hardly** spoke to me.
(= she spoke to me very little, almost not at all)
- George and Hilda want to get married but they've only known each other for a few days. I don't think they should get married yet. They **hardly** know each other.
(= they know each other very little)

Hard and **hardly** are completely different. Compare:

- He tried **hard** to find a job but he had no luck. (= he tried a lot, with a lot of effort)
- I'm not surprised he didn't find a job. He **hardly** tried to find one. (= he tried very little)

We often use **hardly** + **any/anybody/anyone/anything/anywhere**:

- A: How much money have you got?
B: **Hardly any**. (= very little, almost none)
- I'll have to go shopping. We've got **hardly any** food.
- The exam results were very bad. **Hardly anybody** in our class passed. (= very few students passed, almost nobody passed)
- She ate **hardly anything**. She wasn't feeling hungry. (= she ate very little, almost nothing)

There's **hardly anything** in the fridge.



Note the position of **hardly**. You can say:

- She ate **hardly anything**. *or* She **hardly** ate anything.
- We've got **hardly any** food. *or* We've **hardly** got any food.

We often use **can/could** + **hardly**. I **can hardly** do something = it's almost impossible for me to do it:

- Your writing is terrible. I **can hardly** read it. (= it is almost impossible for me to read it)
- My leg was hurting me. I **could hardly** walk.

Hardly ever = almost never

- I'm nearly always at home in the evenings. I **hardly ever** go out.

100.1 Put in good or well.

- 1 I play tennis but I'm not very good.
- 2 Your exam results were very
- 3 You did very in your exams.
- 4 The weather was very while we were on holiday.
- 5 I didn't sleep very last night.
- 6 How are you? Are you ?
- 7 George speaks German very
- 8 George's German is very
- 9 Our new business is going very at the moment.
- 10 I like your jacket. It looks on you.
- 11 I've met her a few times but I don't know her very

100.2 Complete these sentences using well + one of the following words:

balanced ~~behaved~~ done dressed informed kept known paid

- 1 The children were very good. They were well-behaved.
- 2 I'm surprised you haven't heard of her. She is quite
- 3 Our neighbours' garden is neat and tidy. It is very
- 4 You should eat different types of food. Your diet should be
- 5 Ann knows a lot about many things. She is quite
- 6 His clothes are always smart. He is always
- 7 Jill has a lot of responsibility in her job but she isn't very
- 8 Congratulations on passing your examinations.!

100.3 Are the underlined words right or wrong? Correct the ones that are wrong.

- 1 I'm tired because I've been working hard. RIGHT
- 2 I tried hard to remember her name but I couldn't.
- 3 This coat is practically unused. I've hardly worn it.
- 4 She's a good tennis player. She hits the ball hardly.
- 5 Don't walk so fast! I can't keep up with you.
- 6 Why are you walking so slow? Are you tired?

100.4 Write sentences with hardly. Use one of the following verbs (in the correct form):

change hear ~~know~~ recognise say sleep speak

- 1 George and Hilda have only met once before. They hardly know each other.
- 2 You're speaking very quietly. I can you.
- 3 I'm very tired this morning. I last night.
- 4 We were so shocked when we heard the news, we could
- 5 Kate was very quiet this evening. She a word.
- 6 You look the same now as you looked 15 years ago. You've
- 7 I met Keith a few days ago. I hadn't seen him for a long time and he looks very different now. I him.

100.5 Complete these sentences with hardly + any/anybody/anything/anywhere/ever.

- 1 I'll have to go shopping. We've got hardly any food.
- 2 It was a very warm day and there was wind.
- 3 'Do you know much about computers?' 'No,'
- 4 The hotel was almost empty. There was staying there.
- 5 I listen to the radio quite often but I watch television.
- 6 Our new boss is not very popular. likes her.
- 7 It was very crowded in the room. There was to sit.
- 8 We used to be good friends but we see each other now.
- 9 It was nice driving this morning. There was traffic.
- 10 I hate this town. There's to do and to go.

- 12 a small black metal box
- 13 a big fat black cat
- 14 a lovely little old village
- 15 beautiful long black hair
- 16 an interesting old French painting
- 17 an enormous red and yellow umbrella

98.2

- 3 the last two days
- 4 the first two weeks of September
- 5 the next few days
- 6 the first three questions (of the examination)
- 7 the next two years
- 8 the last three days of our holiday

98.3

- 2 tastes awful or tasted awful
- 3 feel fine
- 4 smell nice
- 5 look wet
- 6 sounds quite interesting or sounded quite interesting

98.4

- 2 happy 5 terrible
- 3 happily 6 properly
- 4 violent

UNIT 99**99.1**

- 2 badly 5 unexpectedly
- 3 easily 6 regularly
- 4 patiently

99.2

- 3 selfishly 8 badly
- 4 terribly 9 badly
- 5 sudden 10 safe
- 6 colourfully 11 angrily
- 7 colourful

99.3

- 2 careful
- 3 continuously
- 4 happily
- 5 fluent
- 6 specially
- 7 complete
- 8 perfectly
- 9 nervous
- 10 financially / completely

99.4

- 2 seriously ill
- 3 absolutely enormous
- 4 slightly damaged
- 5 unusually quiet
- 6 completely changed
- 7 unnecessarily long
- 8 badly planned

UNIT 100**100.1**

- 2 good 6 well 9 well
- 3 well 7 well 10 good
- 4 good 8 good 11 well
- 5 well

100.2

- 2 well-known
- 3 well-kept
- 4 well-balanced
- 5 well-informed
- 6 well-dressed
- 7 well-paid
- 8 Well done! (2 separate words)

100.3

- 2 right
- 3 right
- 4 wrong – hard
- 5 right
- 6 wrong – slowly

100.4

- 2 hardly hear
- 3 hardly slept
- 4 hardly speak
- 5 hardly said
- 6 hardly changed
- 7 hardly recognised

100.5

- 2 hardly any
- 3 hardly anything
- 4 hardly anybody / hardly anyone
- 5 hardly ever
- 6 Hardly anybody / Hardly anyone
- 7 hardly anywhere
- 8 hardly ever
- 9 hardly any
- 10 hardly anything ... hardly anywhere

UNIT 101**101.1**

- 4 so 10 such a
- 5 so 11 so
- 6 such a 12 so ... such
- 7 so 13 so
- 8 such 14 such a
- 9 such a 15 such a

101.2

- 3 I was so tired (that) I couldn't keep my eyes open.
- 4 We had such a good time on holiday (that) we didn't want to come home.
- 5 She speaks English so well (that) you would think it was her native language. or She speaks such good English (that)...